



XI

THE CASE IS ALTERED.

How?

Aske Dalio and Millo.



LONDON.

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To the Reader.

Gentle Reader, I pray God I doe not flatter you: for if you should proue either vnwife or vnkinde, I should call in my Tittle: So it is, that hauing nothing to doe, I set my selfe a worke about a little better matter, to write downe certaine Cases neuer pleaded, but onely discoursed vpon by a couple of idle people, the matters handled are of no great moment, and therefore scarce worth the reading: but yet, if thou peruse them all ouer, no doubt but some of them will please you: If any of them do otherwise I am sorie, I know not your humour: but if you finde your selfe, touched with any euill rather mend the fault in your selfe, then finde fault with me. In brieffe, I onely write vpon Cases, neither Kniue cases, Pin cases, nor Candle cases, but onely a few merry pittifull cases, I which if I haue lost my time I am sory for my labour: but, if I haue lost my labour, I am sory for my time: but, if I haue gained your good will all is not lost, and I thanke you: but because I know not where to come to you to tell you so, I leane you to reade and like what you list, and to thinke one me as you haue cause: and so in good will, I rest.

F. T.





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How?

Aske Dalio and Millo.

DALIO.



MILLO. Good morning.

Millo. And a thousand to thee honest Dalio; but whether pleased you so sadly, Dal. I was walking towards your house, and finding your wife abroad, I hoped the better to haue you quiet at home. Mil. You say well: Is it not a pittifull case, that a mans house that should bee his castle, and his wife his comfort, should through the bnguietnes of her indiscretion, become moze terrible to him then to a tower of War.

Dal. I must confesse it is too true, I haue pittied you often, but could neuer doe you good: and he that could iudge what I see, and you feele, would confesse it were a pittifull case indeed, God helpe you.

Mil. I thanke you for I thinke that the noise of a bolley of shot is not comparable to the roaring mouth of an vnquiet woman: which since it will not be mended, it must be borne and so forth, But I pray you tell me, how both your eldest Son, followeth her his old courses, will not good counsell bring him home againe?

Dal. Oh Neighbour: I may sigh to heare men say that yonder is an honest man, yet haue a Sonne able to bzeake the heart of his father: Oh, is it not a pittifull Case, that a man should carke and care all the dayes of his life, to lay vp wealth for a wicked sonne, that shall spend it before he was ready to part with it, and ere he should leaue to be a child, be sicke of the

The case is altered.

father: make matches vpon his death, be glad of his sicknesse, and feare his recovery, and continuing in an euil course, scorne to be reformed, till having escaped the Law, he growes so shamelesse in his life, that hee is lothed of all good company, became an eye-soze to his friends & a gaill to his fathers heart when, neuer the wo of want, the shame of punishment, the feare of God, nor the lone of a father can perswade him to good. Is it not a pittfull Case, to see him so past grace, that there is no hope of amendment: and yet nature is of such force that a man cannot hate his owne child: what shall I say to it?

Dal. Why, as you say to me, let me say to you, a pittfull Case, a pittfull Case for tis no lesse, A scoulding wife, and a Rabboine child, are two pittfull cases for patience to plead in. But what is become of my neighbour Biros daughter?

Mil. Alas the day, there is a pittfull case indeed, if you speake of a case to be pittied. A young wench, a faire wench, a fine wench, a pitty wench, a swete wench, a gallant wench, a proper wench, a wise wench, an honest wench, a kind and sug wel and play well, and worke well, and doe euery thing well, to be cast away, I say cast away: yea bitterly cast away vpon a Roddy, a Pinny hammer, a Tamegoole, a wood cocke, a Pecocke, a Waucocke, that lones nothing but fatte meate and can spell nothing but puding, and yet put by in gay clothes must stand in stead of a better man, to the vndoing of such a pöreles woman, and all for a little trash: Oh wicked money, to be the Accörs of such mischiefe. Is it not a pitifull case?

Dal. It is: and more heart (were not wishing in vaine) I could betome her a better match: then thus to see a diamond buried in sea-coale ashes, it is a pitty, it serues a better soile and in truth, had I such a daughter, she should spin and I would reele, and wee would make thred for a living, before I would bring her to her death by such a miserie.

Mil. You say well, and so I thinke should I but tis a pittfull case and so let it be: And since we are entred into these matters let me aske you a question. I pray you what heare you of your Nephew, and his marriage?

Dal. You doe well to put me in minde of him, for in troth I pittied him, a young man, a handsome man, a wise man, an honest

The case is altered.

nest man, a kinde man, & a carefull man, giuen to thrive, like to doe well, coming on wel in the world to bestow the prime of his yeres,, the hope of his fortune, and the fruit of his trauaile, vpon the figure of deformity, the discomfort of continuance, the crosse of pleasure, and the miserie of time, and all for a little cankered coyne, which may hap to be short of his reckoning, and hee may leaue ere he betwaxe: would it not fret a man to thinke on it grieues a man to see it, & pittie him that cannot helpe it, when his youth is drowned in her age, his wit in her wilfulnesse, his learning in her lacke of vnderstanding, and his worthinesse in her wretchednesse: is not this a pittifull case.

Mil. Oh yes, a pittifull case, a pittifull case indeed: and for my selfe had I such a sonne, I would make him plough, and I would sow, and we would both labour for bread ere hee should traff with such a mozell. But to goe on with you a little, I pray you how doth my cazen Sindo, with his bargaine?

Dal. You say well, for there is a case pittifull enough, I thinke, oh poore man he is undone: why, his stocke of money he put into a stocke of sheepe, & hauing them warranted good and sound, takes a pasture for them: which had bene tainted with sicke cattell, and there findes them day by day fall into diseases: that what with the rot, the scab, the fly, the worme the cough, and I know not what, in a little time the sold comes into a little rume, & the flaces so fly from the sale, that the carkeless wil not be worth the taking vp: when what with the fore and the wolfe, the careles, or the crafty sheapheard, and the tainted ground, or the infectious ayre, the sheepe comes to so poore a reckning, that repentance may sit downe and say nothing, and forsake of sheep of his owne, goe play the sheepshead or the sheapheard with another, to see an honest man in good credit, of his neighbours, carefull of his estate, topling for his liuing should either through want of skill, or the cruelty of fortune, come to such decay, that being able to loud other in their necessities, should now haue neither credit or comfort in his misery: oh, is it not a pittifull Case, that man, who should be as a god vnto a man, should become such a diuell vnto a man.

Mil. It is true, the Diuell at the first crept into the eare of

The case is altered.

a woman, to deceive man, and I thinke he hath of late so crept into the heart of man to deceive one another, and themselves, most of all, that the monstrous minds of these daies doe so deceive and abuse the simple hearts of honest soules, that we may say it is a pittifull Case, to see what the Diuill can doe among men: but let that passe: and let me aske you one question.

Dal. With all my heart, and as I can, I will kindly answer you: then say this when a rich man dies, and gives a great deale of money to a number of poore men and women, many of them take his word, and having no writing, he dies & makes his will, gives what he hath to whome he list, but hath no minds of his debts, though he haue set downe all his debtors, & so with a conscience woold wide, goes to hell with the diuill, leaving poore men to beg, that cannot come by there money when the laborer the widow & the fatherlesse, come wringing to the doore for the payment of a poore reckning, & with a cheek of a famnt, either deferred for a little, or with nothing but a rebuke sent away: while the Excrement comes out puffing after a banquet, & haire comes providing after new apparrell, the sister picking as toward the hope of a gallant husband, and the gnosse with courtiers and I thanke you for my good cheere, going home the poore wretch with a sold comfort, must walke a way with a poore pittance, breaking his heart with the sighes of his soule, to see the misery of Fortune: Is not this a pittifull case?

Mil. It is a most pittifull Case, but who can helpe it, when mens hearts is so shut vp in their purses, that money comes from them like their hearts blood: and with wicked consciences rather die indebted to many, to enrich their posterity, then leaue order for payment of their debts, euen out of their superfluity: but I hope there are not many such: But to goe along with you, let me tell you, which I thinke you haue not heard of a pittifull Case indeed: I thinke as we haue spoken off, the overthrow of Sig. Benirros estate.

Dal. It is the first time that I heard, of the manner of it but of his decay, I heard and am sorry to heare of it, and therefore, I pray you let me heare you deliuer, as I know you will, the truth of it.

Mil.

The case is alired.

Mil. I will saud thus it was. The Gentleman (as you know) a proper man, well caried, well qualified, and well disposed, deeply sed, and soundly studied, on whome his friends had good hope of, and many men of great wisdome did conuerse with all for iudgement, in the midst of all expectation of his fortune, and well doing in the world, fallies into acquaintance, and too much affection, with a Scholler that hath more learning then honesty, who to gaine a little wealth, cared not whome he brought to beggerie, and fell farre into an overweaning of his wits, and giuing such an applause to his reading, that for the spending of a little money he should grow into a mountaine of gold, and so longled through foolcs paradise with hopes of strange working in nature, that euer day imparting his estate, by the defraying the charge of his expence perswading him to make Golde brocke, hee found nothing in the end, but to bying indeede gold to brocke, for when his land was sold for money, his money went for coles, grasse, byicke, and bellowes and I know not how many necessaries, as hee was perswaded to be at charge with, for the making golde by the admirable Science of Alcumist: when this glasse was broken, and the fire was out, and this and that must be reuelued, and I know not what was laid out, till there were nothing to lay in, when the poore Gentleman saw himselfe thus mocked with imagination, and reined by illusions, that he found Alcumist, to be Alghemist whith is all mist, amazed to finde himselfe all hid in miste, where through want of a cleare sight, he grew so blinde, that he could neuer see a penny in his purse; Oh how it stroke him to the heart to see the woefull fruit of his wilfull folly belaeus me, catched in a manner, either of himselfe, or what might befall him, he fell to such a melancholy humoz as with inward sorrow, sighing and sobbing, desirous alwayes to be solitary, and out of company; fell at last into a consumption, and so as a dead man vpon the earth, walketh by and downe as you see. and is not this a most pittifull case to see a proper man, a handsome man, an honest man, a wise man, a learned man, a rich man, made such a stale, such an asse, and such a mome, to vndoe himselfe to sell all hee hath and with
sorrow

The case is altered.

secrete to weare himselfe, to the bones, so hope of wonder
out of the wit of a villaine, that onely studied Philosophy; to
use a sole so, so: Beleeue me, in mine opinion it is a pittifull
case.

Dal. It was indeed: and is a most pittifull case to see how
many are cozened in the world by immaginations of maracul-
ous courses in nature: but let them burne that will needs
leape into the fire: in one sence I meane in charity I coulde
pitty their miserie: but truly I cannot but laugh at their fol-
ly that in seeking to make gold of leade, put themselves cleane
out of silver. But let me leane these long Cases, and in briske
answere me to such cases as I shall put you,

Mil. As I can I will.

Dal. Well then, first tell me your opinion in this: Is it not
a pittifull case to see a proper man without money?

Mil. It is.

Dal. And to see a faire Woman without wit?

Mil. No lesse.

Dal. And an old man lecherous?

Mil. Alas poore man.

Dal. A young man vicious?

Mil. He will be sped.

Dal. And a rich man couetous?

Mil. 'Tis pittie that he hath so much.

Dal. And a whore vndoes an honest man?

Mil. Fie vpon her there are too many of them.

Dal. And a sole in atheizy?

Mil. Woe be to that gouernment.

Dal. And a begger on horse-backe?

Mil. Let him ride like a Mascall.

Dal. And a gentleman on foot.

Mil. I would he had a horse.

Dal. And a Monkey kisse a woman?

Mil. It saoures bychline.

Dal. And a dog bite a man?

Mil. Hang him curra.

Dil. And a horse kill his rider?

Mil.

The case is altered.

Mill. Heavy fortune.
Dal. And a Den ewoltraden?
Mill. Cut her throat.
Dal. And a For kill a Lamb?
Mill. Set legs upon him.
Dal. And a woman beat her husband?
Mill. Let his neighbours ride.
Dal. And a good man avowed?
Mill. God help him.
Dal. And a villainous rich?
Mill. He was of a mischief.
Dal. And a Lenny deceived?
Mill. Too common.
Dal. And a deceiver beloved?
Mill. Oh pitiful.
Dal. And a tale ill told?
Mill. Lack of wit.
Dal. And a Lie is smothered?
Mill. Lie on flattery.
Dal. And Love avowed?
Mill. All nature.
Dal. And never answered?
Mill. All judgement.
Dal. And where thou art?
Mill. So dangerous.
Dal. And pants breathes.
Mill. It is impious.
Dal. And a Gentleman boy?
Mill. It is generous.
Dal. And a gooding woman?
Mill. No, it shall not be a thing of nothing.
Dal. And a Good good friends?
Mill. It is natural.
Dal. And a woman's wife?
Mill. It is ordinary.
Dal. And an old love.
Mill. We turn to it.

The case is altered.

Dal. And an ape clothed.

Mil. 'Tis the Rearwards gaine.

Dal. And a Gray-hound spurned,

Mil. A churlish nature,

Dal. And a maffike broken,

Mil. The clownes ietwell.

Dal. And a true fruitlesse,

Mil. Cut it downe.

Dal. And a friend faithlesse,

Mil. Trust him not.

Dal. And a worke-man lazie ;

Mil. Pay him not.

Dal. And a seruant idle,

Mil. Keep him not.

Dal. And a wife gracelesse ;

Mil. Love her not.

Dal. You answered briefly, but not directly to my propositions : I aske you if all these be not pittifull cases :

Mil. No : some are and some are not.

Dal. Which are not.

Mil. Why a barefoote Goose, for shee can weare no shoes, but she would leaue them in the water: and a weeping woman when she crieth for burst heart : and a bearing asse, for hee is good for nothing else: and an ape in his cots for he makes sport for fooles. These and a number more of this nature, I thinke neede not greatly to be pittied: for others, you may indge my minde by mine answers.

Dal. You say well: and yet let the Goose alone to feede with the gander: But to the woman, I thinke when she weeps she cries not, and then a kinde heart will pity her, and to load an asse too much may breake his backe, and to cloath an Ape to richly, is cost ill bestowed: and therefore some way there is none of these things but are to be pittied.

Mil. I hold with you: but let us leaue this sport, chopping of cases, and speake of a case too pittifull to be spoken of if it could bee helped. Say that I should marry your Daughter being a Widow, and being possessed of pritty lands of her owne inheri-

The case is altered.

inheritance by her mother (who you lately buried) and hauing liden with my wife a while in loue and kindnesse till she be forgot to walke the way of all flesh, and she hauing a daughter heire to her said lands, lining with some of her friends far from her, I knowing this daughter true heire to these lands doe against my conscience, passe alway this land to a man of wealth who if it euer come in question: can follow the Law, with a good purse, the heire comes to claime her right: I am dead, he that bought it keeps it, and the Law findes meanes to keepe her from it: is not this a pittifull Case.

Dal. Yes, and pittie but it should be better pleaded, that the heire might haue her right, and oppressor either be punished, or put to pay for it.

Mil. Well said, then let me tell you this: if a Rogue cut a purse and put it into my Pocket, I bee demanded the purse, and knowing my selfe cleare from the thought of such a villany doe in surpriue it, & presently searched, the purse is found about me and I apprehended for the felon except the Thiefe come to cleare me, I am like to hang for it: is not this a pittifull Case.

Dal. Oh Lord, who would not thinke so, and to answere you, if a filthy Whore be gotten with child by a rascall knave, and be counsailed by her companions to lay the blame vpon me, if she will sweare (though she forswear) it was mine, I must be at the charge of the keeping it, and suffer I know not what trouble for it to my great discredit, and almost undoing: is not this a pittifull case;

Dal. Yes truth, and grieuous: but to quit you. Say that you are a poore man, and simply honest, I like a gallant come riding on the high way, vpon an horse that I had stolen but a little before, and am pursued for: I came to alight and bestrusse a point, and knowing the country deliuer you my horse to lead on a little on the way, and giue you a small piece of money for your paines promising to come backe to you: then I make away through a wood to a ferry and so shift away and leaue you, you are taken with the horse, and if the country be not the better vnto you, you must hang for your kindnes: is

The case is altered.

not this a pittifull case?

Mil. A miserable case but leaving hanging Cases, let me
ask your opinion touching some few cases that come suddain-
ly into my minde.

Dal. Withall my heart, and I will deliver you my iudg-
ment, what I thinke of them.

Mil. When say this, to give a white-bred to a Dogge, and
knowe to a man, is not this a pittifull case?

Dal. It is, and it is not,

Mil. How so.

Dal. It is pittifull in respect of the breed, that was ordain-
ed for men the dogs, but of the gift no pittie, for it is better
for to make much of a profitable dog, then an unprofitable man.

Mil. Well then is it not pittie to see a wise man poore and a
foole rich.

Dal. It is, and it is not.

Mil. As how.

Dal. It is pittie that wisdom should want, but wealth will
corrupt a good wit, and a wise man may live by his wit while
a foole may beg if he want money.

Mil. Well said, but is it not pittie to see good meat ill dressed?

Dal. Ay, for if it were well dressed, it might cause surfeiting
by too much pleasing the taste, were now a little well digested
may doe Nature no hurt: but in respect of the meate, it is
pittie so that in a private dish it is not well, but in a publique
feast, it is no great matter.

Mil. Well Sir, but to see an honest quiet man matched with
a scound.

Dal. It is, and it is not: for though in respect of his better
desert it is a pittie, yet in regard it is an exercise of his pati-
ence it is profitable, and no pittie.

Mil. But to see a carefull master matched with a careless
servant, is not he to be pittied;

Dal. I say as I sayd, it is, and it is not, for though in respect
of hindrance it is pittie, yet for that it will keepe him from la-
ziness, in having a carefull eye over all his business, it is good
for him and not so pittifull.

Mil. Well said, but to see a fine wench in rags and an ill fa-
voured

The case is altered.

nauered but well clothed, is it not a pittie.

Dal. I say as I said before, it is and it is not; the wench better deserues it: but in respect her beauty with a little vertue will get a better matter, then cloathing without wealth, it is no pittie; and since it is easie to consider, that the croones clothing is all her countenance, and without that she may goe cry kitchen-stuffe for her comfort, it is pittie but she should haue something to help, that is worse then nothing: and the wench being vertuous in her poverty, might perhaps be wicked, if she were wealthy, so (as I say) it is, and is not pittie.

Mil. Well then, what say you to this: is not the wracke of a ship a pittifull sight;

Dal. It is in one man, and it is not in another, for in respect of the common wealth losse, that might haue made good vse of that she brought, it was pittie: yet in respect that it was a mean to humble the proud spirit of him that ought it, is not pitifull.

Mil. You speake to some purpose: but yet I doe not alowe of your opinion in many points: but for that we come rather to talke of cases, then to fall out about cases let your opinion stand firme, for it is not much a misse, and let me tell you of a pittifull case becheld of late in a little village, about a mile from my house.

Dal. Come on, and ten to one but, if my memozy falle me not I shall requite you with another worth the hearing.

Mil. When heare me, thus it was, An old woman a very old woman, a crooked old woman, a creeping old woman, a lame woman, a deafe woman: a miserable woman: a wretched woman, a wicked woman: fell with halfe a sight (for shortly after she fell blinde) in love with a pretty, neat, vincible spruce, liuely handsome, and truly a linely young man, and so farre as after the manner of the country people she would if she met him in a morning bid him good morrow, with how do you son, I pray you come uere, if it were nere her house, and I pray you sit downe, and I pray you drinke, and how doth your good father and your mother and all your house, in troth you are welcome I am so; I haue no good chere for you: but such as I haue, I pray you do not spare if I haue any thing in my house it:

The case is altered.

It is at your command indeed I ever loved you of a child, and if I had a daughter I would give her with all I have unto you that I would, yea truly would I: but if you could make much of an old woman it may be I have some old Rabbocks that saw no day these twenty winters and come, that may make a young man merry: yea, and perhaps make you liss by their pose that hold their heads full high. And thus then with shewing him all her wealth, which she comfired him to kepe secret and given him a peece of gold or two with him she made him do, yea marry did he, that whith his conscience had no comfirt in, and he found no god of, for having robbed her of a great deale of coyne, onely bearing her in hand to be her Kinsband, and for a little ill favoured kindnes, it fell out that shortly after, he falling in loue with a neighbours daughter a wench worthy the looking on, when all parties were agreed the matter was made by hands were toynd, hearts were toyfull, the Banes were asked, the Bride and Groom were married, the Guests were bidden the Dinner was ready, the minstrels played, the youth danced, and the fooles laughed and the day was well past, and nothing long'd for but onely night, and then the supper done, the guests departed, then curtesie, and I thanke you: the Rich had their bellies full, and the Beggars had their Bockets full, and the whole house was at quiet, dozes were that: The fire and Candle put out, The Bed made soft and the sheets white washed and the pillowes sprinkled over with Rose water, and all things in order for the comfort of these young couple, the old woman grew mad at this match, though she durst not forbid the Banes, being at the Church, & hearing of divers saying god give you joy, fell to mumbling to herselfe and some sorrow too: but how she wrought with her trichant ment. I know not but the young people might kisse while she might sigh, and he fret, but there was no further matter to be perforced, and this continued for two yeares, till that the inlogic and modesty, concealed her misery, and her seeking all meanes he could for his comfort, finding none, met by chance with this old woman, and in a mistrust that she had done him some villany with her ill tongue, fell upon her, and throwing her

The case, is altered.

her downe, trod vpon her, and did beat her till he left her for dead, and indeed she neuer eat bread afterwards, for going home to her house (belike going about some other belishnesse) her Crutch slipping, she fel ouer the threshold & broke her necke. When the young man came home and talked so kindly with his wife, that within forty weeks after she brought him a goodly boy: and is not this a pittifull case, that a man so long should be tormented with the wicked tongue of a woman;

Dal. A woman you would say the sparke of a woman, for a witch is but a Diuel Incarnate: it is pittie that any of them are suffered to liue. But to requite you: not many miles from the towne where I dwell, there was an old man a filthy old man, a coggng sniueling blarney, wrimouthed, bottlenos'd, lame legged, palke handed, stump footed, wry bodied, gaggott, a slandering tongue, soe stinkin breathe, who walked but vpon crutches, read but with spectacles, & spake with a shaking nodding or a noddy head, this orgly object, or rather abiect of nature, the sorrow of youths eye sight, the disposits of time, the hate of loue, and the lamentation of hope, such a man as is not in the world to be seene, by very illfortune, vpon a faire day chanced to meete with a Tenants daughter of his, whom hauing well viewed, as his dimme sight would giue him leane giuing a nod to her curtesie, sent the next day for her to his house, but the wench the day before hauing so much of his sight that she desired neuer to see him more, with bitter teares fell at her fathers feete, & desired him to goe & know his pleasure, and make excuse for her, that she was not well, but the next day she would come to him: The pooze man seeing his daughter change color, did yeeld to her request, put on his best shoes, and cleane band, & being vnt a little way from his house through want of Hozle went one foot, when but a little wetshod, with slipping into a ditch, he comes at last to the doore of this rich clowne, who being head Waliffe to the chiefe Lord of the manner, kept a house, the best thached of all his neighbours in the Parish: there being saluted by a couple of fould curres, not much vnlike there old master, being of his olde acquaintance, shewing him but their teeth, and then wagging their tails

The case is altered.

of a him no harme, but let him there stay till this chape, the old
men still bearing his bags, and knowing their duties, came out
to heare to whom they talked to, y^e there seeing this yonge man
stand up in hand, setting him selfe before them, and saying after a
while enough and a spilling of teares began to aske him for
his daughter, whose creature being made, hee said a word with
him for her, to haue her for his seruant: which hee answering
with an excuse that it could not be for she had taken vowes of
a gentlewoman, to wait on her in her chastitie which he belie-
uing answered that he wold be more for her then any gentle-
woman of them all: for he had no children, and he woud make
her both his child and his wife: and therefore he should take
no care for seruice: the yonge man glad of his message, went
home merrily to his daughter: told her what good fortune was
towards her, for he sent for the other part, and now thought
to take no care for rent, when his child should be his Landlady:
but the yonge girl knowing to her father to be as foolish as hee,
when her father was gone to his daies worke in the morning,
tooke an old sack, in which she put up her Creature that shee
had away she goes to an aunt she had som times off, and there
with howling and crying that her father meant to marry her
to the deuill, intreated her to put her into seruise, for she had
rather paye but all the wages of her life then be matched with
such a monster: Wh Aunt, euerie body saies that hee killd his
last wife with kindnes; and I thinke hee woud do as much
with me.

Wh is as benemane a man as I am, and truly Aunt, it is
such an ill favoured man, and he hath such a beastly it is a beastly
Creature: beleeue: the house that he dwels in, he hath put
his life in: but if he had all the world, and as much good as
woud be in all your house: I woud not haue him, I haue rather
beg my bread.

Wh Aunt seeing the honest heart of the yonge woman, y^e know-
ing that she could fit a seruice together, y^e haue she neede no
city for the plaine dem.e could tell how to cate a piece of meat,
how shee for could dress it, spoke to a Gentlewoman nere to
her to take her into her seruise, done a bargain for her was

The case is altered,

ges & brought her to her, & placed her with her: where she behaued her selfe well, & was well thought on, & there I leave her. Now comes home her Father misseth his Daughter, runs to his Land-lozd thinking to find her there: the Spicher thinks he is mockt, he falls out with his Tenant, warnes him out of his House the poore man goes home weeping, his Wife with her hands wringing entertaines him with a scoulding, rapling vpon him, cursing her Land lozd, and sweares she will haue her home: hang him dog, he shall not be the death of her daughter, she will not dwell in his house, she will haue her child out of his house, or she will beate downe his doores: and is as good as her word the next morning with an open mouth goes to his doores when lowder then both his Passiffes, she maketh an outcry for her Child.

The man knowing her to be an unreasonable Woman, entreats her to be quiet; and he sweares by the crosse of his Crutch, that he knowes not whether she is gone: and with much adoe to pacifie her, he gets him selfe quit ridde of her: when comming home, and not finding her deare Daughter, he falls into such an Agonie, that a Horse could not abide it, when the poore man with griefe takes such thought, that he can eate no meat, and she weary and almost out of breath with scoulding goes to bed for anger: and the old man with sorrow to loose his loue, and to see her parents misery after a fit of the Stone with a Stich of the Collicke being grieved at the heart, and fearing to leaue the world, sends for his Tenant forgives him his Rent, and giues his House to his Daughter if she be found againe: and so bestowed among the poore of the Parish some little matter, not worth the speaking of, hauing made all meanes he could and by her Parents good care and trauaile found out, and brought vnto him some houre before his Death, gaue her in an oulde soules Handkerchiefe, that which paid for more then the washing of two faire Smockes, and so raising the great Bell to be tolde, after a hollow hymne or two, euen for a loue (because he can liue no longer) dyed. And is not this of a long Case, a pittifull case?

Mil. Yes if it were true but surely tis a iest: there was ne-

The case is altered.

uer such a man nor such a matter.

Dal. Well then, say it were a test, was it not a pittifull test?

Mil. If there were any pittie, it was in that hee lived so long, But now after your long Case, let me come to you with a short Case. Is it not pittie to see a faire House without inhabitants.

Dal. It is, and is not,

Mil. How so?

Dal. It is in regard of good Hospitality a pittie: but rather then be either a Denne of Thieves, or a Brothell of Whores it were better stand void, and so it is no pittie.

Mil. Well then, but is it not pittie to see a Purse without money.

Dal. In respect of want it is: but rather then be filld with unlawfull or vngodly gaires, it were better be empty,

Mil. So, but is it not pittie to see good clothes ill toozne?

Dal. It is, and it is not, in regard of the good cloathes it is pittie, but in respect of the wearer it is not: so it is better to be carelesse, then proud.

Dal. Well humors, But is it not pittie to see a man blind,

Mil. Why, would you haue also the one should not see another? or how would you know blindness if all had their sight.

Mil. Well, and is it not pittie to see a woman dumbe?

Dal. Oh then the Market would be spoild.

Mil. Is it not pittie to haue a Dogge deaffe?

Dal. Hang him for his skinne.

Mil. Is it not pittie to see a horse lame?

Dal. Keepe him for a Scallion and let him feed hounds.

Mil. Or a Hauke lacke a wing.

Dal. Pull off her Head.

Mil. Or a Wolfe kill a Lambe?

Dal. Hunt him to death.

Mil. What say you to a Corne in harrow?

Dal. It will drine the Farmer to prayers, and the labourers to worke apace:

Mil. So then, I see your fallen humour will not be altered yet as too much pittie marres a whole Citty, so a dogged mind is too nere the diuell. But it may be, and so I gesse it that you onely
out

The case is altered.

out of your humour, without spight of any thing, speaks all that you doe, and therefore I will treat you a little farther to deliver me your opinion touching some other cases.

Dal. I am for you.

Mil. Is it not pittie to see an infant starved?

Dal. Hang the Nurse.

Mil. To see a Church robbed?

Dal. Strangle the thieves.

Mil. To see a Christian become a Jew?

Dal. Put him to the fire.

Mil. To see a Sonne kill his father?

Dal. Hurry him quick.

Mil. What say you to see a Clowne scoone a Lord?

Dal. Marry him to a Whore.

Mil. To see a witch kill a child?

Dal. Send her to the Dwell.

Mil. Your answers are bitter:

Dal. The Cases are villanous.

Mil. Well, yet what say you to sheepe without a sheapheard;

Dal. Where the wolfe.

Mil. A Horse without a rider;

Dal. Where his heels.

Mil. A Souldier in drinke;

Dal. Where mischief.

Mil. A house on fire?

Dal. Where the whole Towne.

Mil. An honest man a Cuckold?

Dal. Ill fortune.

Mil. A faire wench wicked

Dal. Weakenes in nature.

Mil. Or penitent punished?

Dal. Tyranny.

Mil. Or the wicked spared?

Dal. Oh vile money:

Mil. Or the honest sooted?

Dal. Corruption of time.

Mil. Or a woman womannish;

The case is altered,

Dal. ~~Shame the Goose.~~

Mil. ~~Of a woman tyrannous :~~

Dal. ~~Fury.~~

Mil. ~~Oh Dalio, thou art still one man : I thanke thee for thy plainnesse but fearing that I trouble thee with to many cases, let me heare some from you.~~

Dal. And that, I pray you ~~what~~ think you of this Case :
~~What say you to a yong wench sleepe.~~

Mil. ~~Ware her maiden-head :~~

Dal. ~~To a couetous Lawyer :~~

Mil. ~~Woe to the client :~~

Dal. ~~To a slovenly courtier :~~

Mil. ~~Sanctify him the presence,~~

Dal. ~~To a dicing Merchant,~~

Mil. ~~Ware the stocke :~~

Dal. ~~What say you to a sleepe Sentinell ;~~

Mil. ~~Ware the Campe :~~

Dal. ~~To a carelesse Farmer ;~~

Mil. ~~He will die a begger.~~

Dal. ~~To a lazy workeman :~~

Mil. ~~A whip, a whip.~~

Dal. ~~To a counterfette Cripple :~~

Mil. ~~An open punishment.~~

Dal. ~~To a faithlesse friend ;~~

Mil. ~~Giue him y^e knaue of clubs for a cognizance,~~

Dal. ~~To a malicious enemy ;~~

Mil. ~~Ware Treason.~~

Dal. ~~To a smooth tongued queane,~~

Mil. ~~Take heed of witchcraft :~~

Dal. ~~To a lying Rascall.~~

Mil. ~~Lose no time with him.~~

Dal. ~~To a desperate Villaine.~~

Mil. ~~Avoid his company.~~

Dal. ~~To a shamelesse woman.~~

Mil. ~~Let no man abide her.~~

(Dal. Well said ; but to goe along with you a little to answere you in one point : If I were bitter, you are not sweet so ; so much as I haue yet heard from you (speake it not in dislike of you

The case is altered.

you, but to be quitteance with you) and therefore let me farther aske your opinion in this case. I lend you money to doe you good and you gaine by it, and when I come at my day to demand it: you haue it, and will not pay it: another lends me money, and I lose by it, at the day appointed, I would and cannot pay, yet you hold the reputation of an honest man, after many delays, and I for one day breach am accounted contrary, is not this a pittifull case;

Mil. In truth I thinke the case is pitifull, that I should haue so much credit and so little conscience: and you so good a conscience, and so ill fortune.

Dal. You say right, Now farther let me put you another case. Say, that I should lend you a sword, to weare for a day or two: you in a wofle minde then I would with you, fall by the hwy way vpon a purse, in his hands that will not easily part from it, you fight with him, and kill him, and take away his money, and leane the sword sticking in him, or being persued for the Murder, by some mischaunce in riding or running, lose the sword, or let it fall, and in hast running for life, will not light for the sword, but by your Horses swiftnes, or what means I know not, get away without touch, the sword is found, and carried from Cutler to Cutler, till it be knowne who made it, & in the end being found out who made it and who bought it, I am shew'd the sword, and cannot deny it to be mine, if I cannot bring forth the thiefe, I must answer the law, and hang for my kindnes; is not this a pittifull case.

Dal. Yes truly, in Conscience this suspicion and presumption are shew'd points to condemnation; but though he that is bozne to be hang'd will neuer bee drowned till he be dead; yet me thinks it is a pittifull Case, to hang a true man for theese. And now let me put you another case. Say that I should louing you as I doe, commit (as I durst) into your hand, all the Tocke of my money that I haue, and you and I take a shop together, and sell our wares together, you hauing, as God forbid you should some wicked spirit of couetousnes enter into your ill Conscience, watch a time when I were out of doores go in to my counting house, take all my money and wittings and at

The case is altered.

my trewne, he xiii to thrust me out of doores picke som quarrell with me, bid me seeke mine owne as I can and so without parisation. resolu'd to play the villain with me, drue me to sue by Law to recouer mine owne, while with comodity of my coine you finde meanes to vse me as you list, and so long wearie me with the Suite being not able to hold wage with you, that in the end, I am enforced either to leaue it or to compound with you for a thing of nothing, and putting vp all wrongs, be enforced to make you acquittance for all matters, to discharge you for all claines to my utter vndoing, and haue no remedy: but craue patience of God, while you are going to the Diuell: is not this a pittifull Case:

Mil. It is but the Diuell seeke out his copelmates, I haue nothing to doe with him: I desie him and all his tricks, and so I hope doe you, God blesse vs from him.

Dal. Amen. For if there euer was such a case, it was hellishly handled that the Law could no better determine it, but that a knaue should bee the vndoing of an honest man but learning moze to talke of these cases, is it not a pittifull case, to see a rich man, who in shew of the world haue bene reputed a man of honesty and good conscience, vpon the sodaine, either at a banquet, or vpon a bench of authoritie fall sicke so hee no friends of God, but onely calling for his keyes, looke ouer his bags, and curse euery one that comes at him, and like a doge, or a diuell, without the thought of Christianity, leauing his wealth to bee knowen not whome, died like a dog and so is tumbling into the dirt with a number of teares, that he died no sooner, and he no sooner in his graue but his sonne hangs himselfe his daughters all proue whores, his seruants either begge, or sicke for their lining for want of other waies, or any thing left them by their wicked master: and thus vpon a sodaine is the fall of the whole house of wickednesse: Is not this a pittifull case, that the world should be blinded with the out side of hypocrisie, to take such a Jew for a Christian:

Dal. Witty: yes it is pittie, that euer he was begotten: that he dyed not in his Birth, or that he should euer looke like a man in this world. But tell mee your opinion in this case: I a yong wench

The case is altered.

Wench that were of a pure complexion, & of a good feature, well thought of her good behaviour, and with a little wealth, might bee a companion for an honest man, should by falling into the company of some idle Girls, learne to paint her selfe, and to make strange faces: with leering eyes, and mincing chaps, and sneering smiles, after the Whore fashion, to draw soles to an ill banquet, and so continuing this ill course, both spoyle her complexion, spill a good face, and become of the Weboll of Byrdwell, and so from one degree of shame to another, to destruction in the end. Is not this a pittifull case that euer such idle wares should bee brought into a common wealth, or other such wickednes should be practised among honest people.

Mil. Yes in truth it is: but what is the helpe; I know not: and therefore it is the more pittifull, that mischiefe is so pittie cannot be helped.

Dal. Then let it alone, and talke of some other matters;

Mil. Content, but me thinks the day growes towards an end the Sunne is setting, and I haue a start home: and hauing promised my Wife to bee at home by five of the Clocke would bee oath to breake my word with her, for you know her humour and hauing some of her country folkes come to see her, she meanes to bestow some good cheere vpon them: and therefore if you dare venture a scoulding tapnt with your woman, goe a long with me, and howsoeuer it will be here after, I dare warrant you a welcome, for shee meanes to bee merry, the Capon and the Goose are both kild,

Dal. But the Gander is left aloue.

Mil. Pea, shee keepe him for to breed to giue you a Gosling.

Dal. Well said old wag, I thinke I shall neuer die in thy debt and therefore since all Woodcocks haue long bills, let vs take our flights together.

Mil. You say well: and since all Asses haue great heads, let none be ashamed of his long eares.

Dal. Good againe, And since all Goats haue beards, let them be knowne from sheepe.

Mil. A goodbyer on you for mee, I hope here are none in my flocke.

Dal. If there be remoue them, for they will not do well together

The case is altered.

either, but take you you, who comes yonder?

Mil. It is my boy, his mother hath sent for me I must away to morrow is market day, and if you will, I will meet you here at this Wake, and we will haue some talke of other matters.

Dal. Content, farewell: though I say little, I know 't is good to keepe women in quiet, that will bridle for a little matter, especially if their husbands lie not at home, farewell.

Mil. Farewell.

When they had thus ended their cases, and giuen each other a good night, and came home to their wines in good time, that all things were quiet for that night, The next day about nine of the clocke in the morning according to promise, they met at the place appointed (the great oake) vnder which, when they had a little rested themselves vpon their walking staves, after a little ordinary salutation, with good morrow and well met, and how do you and all your household, well, I thanke God, and I thanke you and God hold it, and so forth: taking vp their cudgels, with some go the morning goes away, and the market will be done away they goe together, and being then some foure or fife miles to the Towne they fell into new matters to talke vpon: which, if you will carry till they be written, as I haue heard them true or false as they be you shall haue them, in the meane time, hoping you will haue patience with this till you heare what followes, I will thus end.

A merry Case is wittifull:

A wofull Case is pittifull.

The wittifull doth breed but Iest,

The pittifull may breed vnrest.

Then leaue the last and take the first.

And take the best and leaue the worst.

FINIS.





THE CASE IS

ALTERED.

How?

Edo Dario and Millo.



LONDON.

Printed by John Norton, for Robert Bird, and are to be sold
at his shop in Cheap-side at the sign of the
Bible 1681.

THE
21 To the Reader.

Gentle Reader, I pray God I doe not flatter you: for if you should prove either vnwise or vnkinde, I should call in my Tittle: So it is, that hauing nothing to doe, I set my selfe a worke about a little better matter, to write downe certaine Cases hither pleaded, but onely discountred vpon by a couple of idle people, the matters handled are of no great moment, and therefore scarce worth the reading: but yet, if thou peruse them all ouer, no doubt but some of them will please you: If any of them do otherwise I am sorie, I know not your humour: but if you finde your selfe, touched with any euill rather mend the fault in your selfe, then finde fault with me. In brieffe, I onely write vpon Cases, neither Kniue cases, Pin cases, nor Candle cases, but onely a few merry pinnall cases, I which if I haue lost my time I am sorry for my labour, but, if I haue lost my labour, I am sorry for my time: but if I haue gained your good will all is not lost, and I thank you: but because I know not where to come to you to tell you so, I leave you to reade and like what you list, and to thinke one way as you haue cause: and so in good will, I rest.

F. T.

LONDON.

44

The Case is altered.

How?

Aske Dalio and Millo.

DALIO.

MILLO. Good morrow.



Millo. And a thousand to thee honest Dalio: but whether ploed you so sadly, Dal. I was walking towards your house, and finding your wife abroad, I hoped the better to haue you quiet at home. Mil. You say well: Is it not a pittifull case, that a mans house

that should be his castle, and his wife his comfort, should through the briguettines of her indiscretion, become more terrible to him, than to a stranger of other.

Dal. I must confesse it to bee true, I haue pittied you often, but could neuer see you gone: and he that could iudge what I see, and you feele, would confesse it worse a pittifull case indeed, God helpe you.

Mil. I thanke you for: I thinke that the noise of a volley of shot is not comparable to the roaring mouth of an vnquiet woman: which since it will not be mended, it must be borne as it is sayd. But I pray you tell me, how hath your eldest son, felloweth his his pld courses, will not good counsell bring him home againe?

Dal. Oh. Neighbour: I may ligh to heare men say that youder is an honest man, yet haue a Sonne able to breake the heart of his father: Oh. is it not a pittifull Case, that a man should carke and care all the dayes of his life, to lay up wealth for a wicked sonne, that shall spend it before he was ready to part with it, and ere he should leane to be a child, be like of the

The case is altered.

father : make matches vpon his death, be glad of his sicknesse, and feare his recovery, and continuing in an euill course, scorne to be reformed, till hauing escaped the Law, he growes so shamelesse in his life, that hee is lothed of all good company, became an eye soze to his friends & a gaill to his fathers heart when, neuer the wo of want, the shame of punishment, the feare of God, nor the lone of a father can perswade him to good. Is it not a pittifull Case, to see him so past grace, that there is no hope of amendment : and yet nature is of such force that a man cannot hate his owne child : what shall I say to it ?

Dal. Why, as you say to me, let me say to you, a pittifull Case, a pittifull Case so; tis no lesse, A scoulding wife, and a stubborne child, are two pittifull cases so; patience to plead in. But what is become of my neighbour Biers daughter ?

Mil. Alas the day, there is a pittifull case indeed, if you speake of a case to be pittied. A young wench, a faire wench, a fine wench, a pretty wench, a sweete wench, a gallant wench, a proper wench, a wise wench, an honest wench, a kind and sing wench and play well, and worke well, and doe euery thing well, to be cast away, I say cast away : yea vnterly cast away vpon a Roddy, a spinny-hammer, a Ramegdoole, a woodcocke, a spewcocke, a dawcocke, that loues nothing but fatts meale and can spell nothing but puding, and yet put by iugay clothes must stand in feare of a better man, to the vndoing of such a perles woman, and all for a little trash : Oh wretched money, to be the Accuser of such mischief. Is it not a pittifull case ?

Dal. It is : and poore heart (were not wishing in vaine) I could become her a better match : then thus to see a diamond buried in sea-coale ashes, it is a pittie, it serues a better soile and in truth, had I such a daughter, she should spin and I would sale, and we would make thred so; a liuing, before I would bring her to her death by such a miserie.

Mil. You say well, and so I thinke should I but tis a pittifull case and so let it be : And since we are entred into these matters let me aske you a question. I pray you what heare you of your nephew, and his mariage ?

Dal. You doe well to put me in minde of him, so; intrest I

The case is altered.

nest man, a kinde man, & a carefull man, giuen to thine, like to doe well, coming on foel in the world to bestow the paines of his yeres, the hope of his fortune, and the fruit of his traualle, vpon the figure of deformity, the discomfort of continuance, the crosse of pleasure, and the miserie of time, and all for a little em-lyed coyne, which may hap to be short of his reckoning, and he may leaue ere he be ware: would it not seet a man to thinke on it, grieues a man to see it, & pittie him that cannot helpe it, when his youth is drowned in her age, his wit in her wilfulness, his learning in her lacke of vnderstanding, and his worthynesse in her wretchednesse: is not this a pittifull case.

Mil. Oh yea, a pittifull case, a pittifull case indeed: and for my selfe had I such a sonne, I would make him plough, and I would sowe, and he would both labour for bread ere he should feast with such a morsell. But to goe on with you a little, I pray you how doth my cogen Sindo, with his bargaine?

Dal. You say well, for there is a case pittifull enough, I thinke, oh poore man he is vnbone: why, his stocke of money he put into a stocke of sheepe, & hauing them warranted good and sound, takes a pasture for them: which has bene tainted with tike cattrell, and there findes them day by day fall into diseases: that what with the rot, the scab, the dy, the worme the cough, and I know not what, in a little time the fold comes into a litle rume, & the flackes so fly from the foles, that the caretlesse will not be worth the taking vp: when what with the fore and the wolfe, the caretles, or the crafty shepheard, and the tainted ground, or the infectious ayre, the sheepe comes to so poore a reckning, that repentance may sit downe and say nothing, and forsake of sheep of his owne, goe play the sheepshead or the shepheard with another, to see an honest man in good credit, of his neighbours, carefull of his estate, toying for his lining should either through want of skill, or the cruelty of fortune, come to such decay, that being able to leud other in their necessities, should now haue neither credit or comfort in his misery: oh, is it not a pittifull case, that man, who should be as a god vnto a man, should become such a diuell vnto a man.

Mil. It is true, the Diuell at the first crept into the eare of

The case is altered.

man, to deceive man, and I thinke he hath of late so crept into the heart of man to deceive one another, and themselves most of all, that the monstrous minds of these daies doe so deceive and abuse the simple hearts of honest soules, that we may say it in a pittifull Case, to see what the Diuill can doe among men: but let that passe: and let me aske you one question.

Dal. With all my heart, and as I can, I will kindly answer you: then say this when a rich man dies, and owes a great deale of money to a number of poore men and women, many of them take his word, and having no writing, he dies: makes his will, gives what he hath to whome he list, but hath no minde of his debts, though he haue set downe all his debtors, & so with a conscience woold wide, goes to hell with the diuill, leaving poore men to beg, that cannot come by there money when the laborer the widow & the fatherlesse, come wringing to the doore for the payment of a poore reckning, & with a check or a taunt, either deferred for a little, or with nothing but a rebuke sent away: while the Creditor comes out puffing after a banquet, & heere comes providing after new apparrell, the other packing as to, waite the hope of a gallant dishonour, and the guests with confidence and I thank you for my good cheer, going home the poore to watch with a cold comfort; must walke away with a poore pittance, breaking his heart with the sighes of his soule, to see the misery of fortune: Is not this a pittifull case?

Mil. It is a most pittifull Case, but who can helpe it, when mens hearts is so shut vp in their parties, that mercy comes from them like their hearts blood: and with wicked consciences rather be indebted to many, to enrich their posterity, then leaue order for payment of their debts, euen out of their superfluity: but I hope there are not many such: But to goe along with you, let me tell you, which I thinke you haue not heard of a pittifull Case indeed: I thinke as we haue spoken of, the onerthow of Sig. Benirros estate.

Dal. It is the first time that I heard, of the manner of it but of his decay, I heard and am sorry to heare of it, and therefore, I pray you let me heare you deliuer, as I know you will, the truth of it.

The case is altered.

Mil. I tell you thus it was. A Gentleman (as you know) a proper man, well reared, well qualified, and well disposed, deeply read, and soundly studied, on whom his friends had good hope of, and many men of great wisdoms did converse with all for judgement, in the midst of all expectation of his fortune, and well doing in the world, falls into acquaintance, and too much affection, with a Scholler that hath more learning then honesty, who to gaine a little wealth, cared not whom he brought to beggery, and fell farre into an over-weighing of his words, and giving such an applause to his reasoning, that for the spending of a little money he would grow into a mountaine of gold, and so long led through foelen practise with hopes of strange working in nature, that every day imparting his estate, by the betraying the charge of his expence perswading him to make Golde drasse, hee found nothing in the end, but to bring indeede gold to drasse, for when his land was sold for money, his money went for coles, grasse, bricke, and bellowses and I know not how many necessaries, as hee was perswaded to be at charge with, for the making golde by the admirable Science of Alchymist: when this plan was broken, and the fire was out, and this and that must be remedied, and I know not what was laid out, till there were nothing to lay in, when the poore Gentleman said himselfe thus mocked with imagination, and misled by illusions, that he would Alchymist, to be Alchemist which was all mist, amazed to find himselfe all hid in mist, where though want of a cleare sight, he grew so blinde, that he could neuer see a penny in his purse; Oh how it strooke him to the heart to see the togethail fruit of his wilfull folly become me, carelesse in a manner, either of himselfe, or what might befall him, he fell to such a melancholly humor as with inward sorrow, sighing and sobbing, desirous alwayes to be solitary, and out of company, fell at last into a consumption, and so as a dead man upon the earth, walketh up and downe as you see. and is not this a most pittifull case to see a proper man, a handsome man, an honest man, a wile man, a learned man, a rich man, made such a dulle, such an asse, and such a mome, to undoe himselfe to sell all her hach and with sorrow

The case is alired.

forre to weare himselfe, to the bones, for hope of members out of the wit of a villaine, that onely flourish Philosophy: to this a sole so, as: Believe me, in mine opinion it is a pittifull case.

Dal. It was indeed: and is a most pittifull case to see how many are cozened in the world by imaginations of marvellous courtes in nature: but let them burne that will needs leape into the fire: in one sense I meane in charity I cannot pittie their miserie: but truly I cannot but laugh at their folly that in seeking to make gold of leane, put themselves cleane out of kinne. But let me leane these long Cases, and in briefe answere me to such cases as I shall put you.

Mil. As I can I will.

Dal. Well then, first tell me your opinion in this: Is it not a pittifull case to see a proper man with out money?

Mil. It is.

Dal. And to see a faire Woman without wit?

Mil. No lesse.

Dal. And an old man lecherous?

Mil. A las perxe man.

Dal. A young man vicious?

Mil. He will be spee.

Dal. And a rich man covetous?

Mil. It is pittie that he hath so much.

Dal. And a whore findes an honest man?

Mil. He lies upon her there are too many of them.

Dal. And a sole in atheisme?

Mil. What he to that government.

Dal. And a begger on horse-backe?

Mil. Let him ride like a Kitchell.

Dal. And a gentleman on foot.

Mil. I would he had a horse.

Dal. And a Donkey kisse a woman?

Mil. He favored by him.

Dal. And a dog bite a man?

Mil. Hang him cur.

Dil. And a horse kill his rider?

The case is altered.

Mil. Heavy fortune.

Dal. And a Hen crowtrotten?

Mil. Cut her throat.

Dal. And a For kill a Lambe?

Mil. Set dogs vpon him.

Dal. And a woman beat her husband?

Mil. Let his neighbour ride.

Dal. And a poore man arrested?

Mil. God helpe him.

Dal. And a villaine rich?

Mil. Beware of a mischiefe.

Dal. And a Louer deceiued?

Mil. Too common.

Dal. And a deceiuer beloued?

Mil. Oh pittifull.

Dal. And a tale ill told?

Mil. Lacke of wit.

Dal. And a Lie smothered?

Mil. He on flattery.

Dal. And Loue abused?

Mil. Ill nature.

Dal. And abuse favored?

Mil. Ill iudgement.

Dal. And warre threatned.

Mil. 'Tis dangerous.

Dal. And peace shattred.

Mil. 'Tis impious.

Dal. And a Shouldier beg?

Mil. It is grieuous.

Dal. And a puding burne;

Mil. No, it skills not 'Tis a thing of nothing.

Dal. And a Goose goe barefoote;

Mil. It is naturall.

Dal. And a woman wise;

Mil. It is ordinary.

Dal. And an eke loved,

Mil. We serues for it.

Dal.

The case is altered.

Dal. And an ape clothed.

Mil. His the Yearwards gaine.

Dal. And a Gray-hound spurned.

Mil. A churlish nature,

Dal. And a mastiffe stroken,

Mil. The clownes tevell.

Dal. And a trée scuttlesse,

Mil. Cut it downe.

Dal. And a friend faithlesse,

Mil. Trust him not.

Dal. And a wozkeman lazic ;

Mil. Pay him not.

Dal. And a seruant idle,

Mil. Keepc him not.

Dal. And a wise gracelesse ;

Mil. Lone her not.

Dal. You answere briefly, but not directly to my propostion : I aske you if all these be not pittifull cases :

Mil. No : some are and some are not.

Dal. Which are not.

Mil. Why a barefoote Goose, for shee can weare no shoes, but she would leaue them in the water: and a weeping woman when she crieth for burst heart: and a bearing asse, for hee is good for nothing else: and an ape in his cote for he makes sport for fooles, These and a number more of this nature, I thinke needs not greatly to be pittied: for others, you may iudge my minde by mine answers.

Dal. You say well: and yet let the Goose alone to scide with the gander: But to the woman, I thinke when she weepes she cries not, and then a kinde heart will pity her; and to load an asse too much may breake his backe, and to cloath an Ape to richly, is cost ill bestowed: and therefore some way there is none of these things but are to be pittied.

Mil. I hold with you: but let vs leaue this sport, chopping of cases, and speake of a case too pittifull to be spoken of if it could bee helped. Say that I should marry your Daughter being a widow, and being possessed of pritty lands of her owne inheri-

The case is altered.

inheritance by her mother (who you lately buried) and having lived with my Wife a while in love and kinnesse till she was forced to walke the way of all flesh, and she having a daughter heire to her said lands, living with some of her friends far from her, I knowing this daughter true heire to these lands doe against my conscience, passe away this land to a man of wealth who if it ever come in question, can follow the Law, with a good purse, the heire comes to claime her right: I am dead, he that bought it keepes it, and the Law findes meanes to keepe her from it: is not this a pittifull Case.

Dal. Yes, and pittie but it should be better pleaded, that the heire might haue her right, and oppressor either be punished, or put to pay for it.

Mil. Well said, then let me tell you this: if a Rogue cut a purse and put it into my Pocket, I bee demanded the purse, and knowing my selfe cleare from the thought of such a villany, doe in fury dring it, & presently searched, the purse is found about me and I apprehended for the felon except the Thiefe come to cleare me, I am like to hang for it: is not this a pittifull Case.

Dal. Oh Lord, who would not thinke so, and to answer you, if a filthy Whore be gotten with child by a rascall knave, and be counsailed by her companions to lay the bastard upon me, if she will sweare (though she forswear) it was mine, I must be at the charge of the keeping it, and suffer I know not what trouble for it. to my great discredit, and almost undoing: is not this a pittifull case;

Dal. Yes truth, and grievous: but to quit you. Say that you are a poore man, and simply honest, I like a gallant come riding on the high way, upon an horse that I had stollen but a little before, and am pursued for: I seeme to alight and distrust a point, and knowing the country deliuer you my horse to lead on a little on the way, and give you a small piece of mony for your paines promising to come backe to you, then I make away through a wood to a ferry and so shift away and leave you, you are taken with the horse, and if the country be not the better unto you, you must hang for your kindness: is

The case is altered.

not this a pittifull case:

Mil. A miserable case but leauing hanging Cases, let me aske your opinion touching some few cases that come suddainly into my minde.

Dal. Withall my heart, and I will deliuer you my iudgement, what I thinke of them.

Mil. When say this, to giue White bred to a Dogge, and yelowe to a man, is not this a pittifull case;

Dal. It is, and it is not,

Mil. How so.

Dal. It is pittifull in respect of the bread, that was obtained rather for men the dogs, but of the gift no pittie, for it is better for to make much of a profitable dog, then an unprofitable man.

Mil. Well then is it not pittie to see a wise man poore and a foole rich,

Dal. It is, and it is not.

Mil. As how.

Dal. It is pittie that wisdom should want, but wealth will corrupt a good wit, and a wise man may lise by his wits while a foole may beg if he want money.

Mil. Well said, but is it not pittie to see good meat ill dressed?

Dal. No, for if it were well dressed, it might cause surfeiting by too much pleasing the taste, were now a little well digested may doe nature no hurt: but in respect of the meate, it is pittie so that in a private dish it is not well, but in a publike feast, it is no great matter.

Mil. Well Sir, but to see an honest quiet man matched with a scold.

Dal. It is, and it is not: for though in respect of his better desert it is a pittie, yet in regard it is an exercise of his patience it is profitable, and no pittie.

Mil. But to see a carefull maister matched with a careless seruant, is not he to be pittied;

Dal. I say as I sayd, it is, and it is not, for though in respect of hindrance it is pittie, yet for that it will keepe him from lappness, in hauing a carefull eye ouer all his busines, it is good for him and not so pittifull.

Mil. Well said, but to see a fine wench in rage and an ill fa-

nourish

The case is alered.

noured to let well clothed, is it not a pittie.

Dal. I say as I said still, it is and it is not; the wench better deserves it: but in respect her beauty with a little vertue will get a better matter, then cloathing without wealth, it is no pittie: and since it is easie to consider, that the croanes cloathing is all her countinance, and without that she may goe cry kitchin-kusse for her comfort, it is pittie but she should haue something to help, that is worse then nothing: and the wench being vertuous in her poverty, might perhaps be wicked, if she were wealthy, so (as I say) it is, and is not pittie.

Mil. Well then, what say you to this: is not the wracke of a ship a pittifull sight?

Dal. It is so one was, and it is not a nother, for in respect of the common wealths losse, that might haue made good vse of that she brought, it was pittie: yet in respect that it was a mean to humble the proud spirit of him that ought it, is not pittifull.

Mil. You speake to some purpose: but yet I doe not alowe of your opinion in many points: but for that we come rather to talke of cases, then to fall out about cases let your opinion stand firme, for it is not much a misse, and let me tell you of a pittifull case beheld of late in a little village, about a mile from my house.

Dal. Come on, and ten to one but, if my memozy falle me not I shall requiste you with another woorth the hearing.

Mil. When heare me, thus it was, An old woman a verry old woman, a crooked old woman, a craping old woman, a lame woman, a deafe woman: a miserable woman: a wretched woman, a twisted woman: fell with halfe a sight (for shortly after she fell blinde) in love with a pretty, neat, nimble spruce, hiegly handsome, and truly a liuely young man, and so farre as after the manner of the country people she would if she met him in a morning bid him good morning, with how do you son, I pray you come nere, if it were nere her house, and I pray you sit downe, and I pray you drinke, and how doth your good father and your mother and all your house, in troth you are welcome I am soye I haue no good chere for you: but such as I haue, I pray you do not spare: if I haue any thing in my house it:

The case is altered.

it is at your command indeed I euer loved you of a child, and if I had a daughter I would giue her with all I haue vnto you that I would, yea truly would I: but if you could make much of an old woman it may be I haue some old Rubbicks that laste no day these twenty winters and tenn, that may make a young man merry: yea, and perhaps make you lise by their Rôle that hold their heads full high. And thus then with shewing him all her wealth, which she conuincd him to keepe secret and giuen him a peece of gold or two with him she made him do, yea marry did he, that which his conscience had no comfort in, and he found no good of, for hauing robbed her of a great deale of coyne, onely bearing her in hand to be her Husband, and for a little ill fauored kindnes, it fell out that shortly after, he falling in loue with a neighbours daughter a wench worthy the looking on, when all parties were agreed the matter was made vp, hands were ioyned, Hearts were ioyfull, the Banes were asked, the Bride and Groom were married, the Guests were bidden, the Dinner was ready, the minstrels played, the youth danced, and the fooles laughed and the day was well past, and nothing long'd for but onely night, and then the super done, the guests departed, then curstesse, and I thanke you: the Rich had their bellies full, and the Beggars had their Pockets full, and the whole house was at quiet, dozes were shut: The fire and Candle put out, The Bed made soft and the sheets white washed and the pillows sprinkled ouer with Rose water, and all things in order for the comfort of these yong couple, the old woman grew mad at this match, though she durst not forbid the Banes, being at the Church, a hearing of sinners saying god giue you ioy, fell to mumbling to herselfe and some sorrow too: but how she wrought with her enchantment, I know not but the young people might kiss while she might sigh, and he fret, but there was no further matter to be perfozmed, and this continued for two yeares, till that she in loue and modesty, concealed her misery, and he seeking all meanes he could for his comfort, finding none, met by chance with this old woman, and in a mistrust that she had done him some villany with her ill tongue, fell vpon her, and throwing her

her downe, trod vpon her, and bin beat her till he left her for dead, and indeed she neuer eat bread afterwarde, for going home to her house, (belike going about some other belishnesse) her Crutch slipping, she fel ouer the threshold & broke her necke. When the young man came home and talked so kindly with his wife, that within forty weekes after she brought him a goodly boy: and is not this a pittifull case, that a man so long should be tormented with the wicked tongue of a woman;

Dal. A woman you would say the sparke of a woman, for a Witch is but a Diuel Incarnate: it is pittie that any of them are suffered to liue. But to requite you: not many miles from the towne where I dwell, there was an old man a filthy old man, a cogging sniueling blarney, wrimouthed, bottlenose, lame legged, pulke handed, stumpfooted, wyrbodied, gagtoth, & slandering tongue, for stinkin breathed, who walked but vpon crutches, read but with spectacles, & spake with a shaking nodding or a noddy head, this orgly obiect, or rather abiect of nature, the sorrow of youths eye sight, the disposite of time, the hate of loue, and the lamentation of hope, such a man as is not in the world to be seene, by very illfortune, vpon a faire day chanced to meete with a Tenants daughter of his, whom hauing well biewed, as his dimme sight would giue him leaue giuing a nod to her curtisse, sent the next day for her to his house, but the wench the day before hauing so much of his sight that she desired neuer to see him more, with bitter teares fell at her fathers feete, & desired him to goe & know his pleasure, and make excuse for her, that she was not well, but the next day she would come to him: The poore man seeing his daughter change color, did yeeld to her request, put on his best shoes, and cleane band, & being but a little way from his house through want of Horse went on foot, when but a little way, with slipping into a ditch, he comes at last to the doore of this rich clowne, who being head Waliffe to the chiefe Lord of the maner, kept a house, the best thacher of all his neighbours in the Parish: there being saluted by a couple of soule cures, not much vnlike there old master, being of his ondes acquaintance, shewing him but their teeth, and then wagging their tails

The case is altered.

did him no harm, but let him there stay till this chaps, the old
mesill, hearing his dogs, and knowing their voices, came out
to heare whom they talked to, & there seeing this poore man
stand cap in hand, setting him selfe downe upon a bench after a
horse cough and a spalling spet or two begins to aske him for
his daughter, whose excuse being made hee saies a word with
him so; her, to haue her for his seruant; which hee answering
with an excuse that it could not be so; she had taken earnest of
a gentlewoman, to wait on her in her chamber; which he belie-
uing answered that he wold do more for her then any gentle-
woman of them all; so; he had no children, and he wold make
her both his child and his wife: and therefore she should take
no care so; service: the poore man glad of his message, went
home merrily to his daughter, told her what good fortune was
towards her, so; ioy sent for the other pot, and now thought
to take no care so; rent, when his child should be his Landady:
but the poore girl seeming to her father to be as ioyfull as he,
when her father was gone to his dayes worke in the morning,
tooke an old sacke, in which she put vp her Cloathes that she
had & away she goes to an aunt she had ten miles off, and there
with howling and crying that her father meant to marry her
to the deuill, intreated her to put her into service, for she had
rather wash buks all the dayes of her life then be matched with
such a monster: Oh Aunt, every body saies that he kild his
last wife with kindness, and I think hee wold do as much
with me.

Oh tis as venomous a man as linc, and truly Aunt, it is
such an ill fauored man, and he hath such a breath, it is a beast-
ly Creature: besides: the house that he dwels in, hee hath but
his life in: but if he had all the world, and as much goods as
would ly in all your house: I would not haue him, I had rather
beg my bread.

Her Aunt seeing the honest heart of the poore wench & know-
ing that she could set a seame together, & handle her needle pre-
tily for the plaine hem, & could tell how to eate a peice of meat,
how euer she could dresse it, spake to a Gentlewoman neere to
her to take her into her seruice, wone a bargaine for her wa-

The case is altered.

ges & brought her to her, & placed her with her: where she laboured her selfe well, & much well thought on, & there I leave her. Some comes home but, father misseth his Daughter, runs to his Land-lord, thinking to find her there: the Porter thinks he is misseth, he falls out with his Tenant, warns him out of his House the poore man goes home weeping, his Wife with her hands wringing entertaines him with a scolding, capling upon him, cursing her Land lord, and swears she will haue her home: long time day, he shall not be the death of her Daughter, she will not well in his house, she will haue her child out of his house, or she will beat out his bones: and as soon as her husband is thus saying with an open mouth goes to his noyes when lowder then both his Passies, he maketh an outcry for her Child.

The man knowing her to be an unreasonable Woman, entreats her to be quiet, and he swears by the cross of his Country, that he knows not whether she is gone: and with many words persuades her, but gets him selfe quite vnder of her: when coming home, and not finding her near Daughter, he falls into a great Agonie, that a Horse could not draw it, when the poore man with griefe takes such thought, that he can take no meat, nor the wife and child want of breath with standing goes to her for comfort: the old man with sorrow to lose his loue, and to see her parents sorrow after a life of the same with a touch of the Collicke being giuen: all he canst, and fearing to leave the world, sends for his Tenant: forgives him his Rent, and gives his House to his Daughter if she be found againe: and so without knowing the peace of the World is in little matter, not worth the speaking of, having made all manner he could and by her Parents good care and trouble found out, and brought into him some house hold stuffe in death, goes by in an old soule Wandrichie, that which good for more then the washing off the face Wandrichie, missest and the great Hell it is to be, with a yellow face, and a pale one (because he can line no longer) eyed. And is not this of a long time?

Will you be so good to send me the story of the next? there was ne-

The case is altered.

not such a man nor such a matter.

Dal. Tell then, say it were a tell, was it not a pittifull tell?

Mil. If there were any pity, it was in that hee lived so long, But now after your long Case, let me come to you with a short Case. Is it not pittie to see a faire Gentle without inhabitants.

Dal. It is, and is not.

Mil. How so?

Dal. It is in regard of God, Who said it is pittie: but rather then be either a house of Whores, or a Bybell of Whores it were better stand void, and so it is no pittie.

Mil. Tell then, but is it not pittie to see a House without money.

Dal. In respect of want it is: but rather then be filled with idle idle of bawdy galled, it were better be empty.

Mil. So, but is it not pittie to see a Gentleman all alone?

Dal. It is, and it is not; in regard of the good clothes it is pittie, but in respect of the wearer it is not: for it is better to have clothes, then poverty.

Dal. Tell him more, What is it not pittie to see a man blind?

Mil. Why, would you have all the one should not see and the other? or how would you have blindness if all had their sight?

Mil. Well, and is it not pittie to see a woman dumb?

Dal. Why then the market would be full.

Mil. Is it not pittie to have a Dogge without a Dog?

Dal. Hang him for his fortune.

Mil. Is it not pittie to see a horse lame?

Dal. Hang him for a scolden and let him find himself.

Mil. Is a Gentleman a thing?

Dal. Full of her humours.

Mil. Is a Gentleman a Lamb?

Dal. Hunt him to death.

Mil. What say you to a Farmer in harvest?

Dal. It will bring the Farmers to pay, and the Farmers to work up to the day.

Mil. So then, I see your sudden humour will not be altered yet.

as for much pity makes a whole City, as a beggar makes a whole the more. But it may be, and so I give it that you only

The case is altered.

out of your humour, without spite of any thing, I would all that
you doe, and therefore I will decrease you a little further to so-
liver me your opinion touching some other cases.

Dal. I am for you.

Mil. Is it not pittie to see an infant starved?

Dal. Hang the Nurse.

Mil. To see a Christian robbed?

Dal. Strangle the thief.

Mil. To see a Christian become a Jew?

Dal. Put him to the fire.

Mil. To see a Sonne kill his father?

Dal. Hurry him quick.

Mil. What say you to see a Cloane scorne a Lord?

Dal. Carry him to a whore.

Mil. To see a witch kill a child?

Dal. Send her to the gallies.

Mil. Your answers are bitter:

Dal. The Cases are villanous.

Mil. Well, yet what say you to shepe without a shepheard?

Dal. Ware the wolfe.

Mil. A Boyle without a river;

Dal. Ware his holes.

Mil. A Soldier in drinke;

Dal. Ware mischief.

Mil. A house on fire?

Dal. Ware the whole Towne.

Mil. An honest man a Cuckold?

Dal. Ill Fortune.

Mil. A faire boy wicked?

Dal. Weakenes in Nature.

Mil. O; penitent punished?

Dal. Ezany.

Mil. O; the wicked spared?

Dal. O; vile money.

Mil. O; the honest scorne?

Dal. Corruption of time.

Mil. O; a woman womanly?